

Featuring the latest from the Glass Art Society

The Glass Art Society 2022 International Conference *Marking Fifty Years of Celebrating Glass Art*



Demonstration piece created by Raven Skyriver and Preston Singletary during the 2022 Annual GAS Conference in Tacoma, Washington, USA.

by Lauren Bayer

Photography by Mike Berger

The Glass Art Society (GAS) recently held its international conference on May 18–21, 2022, in Tacoma, Washington, USA, which featured presentations, exhibitions, activities, and special events hosted throughout downtown Tacoma. GAS is an international, nonprofit organization founded in 1971 whose mission is to connect, inspire, and empower all facets of the global glass community. The Society strives to stimulate communication among artists, educators, students, collectors, gallery and museum personnel, art critics, manufacturers, and all others interested in and involved with the production, technology, and aesthetics of glass. Their long-term vision is to create one unified glass community.

The 2022 GAS Conference marked the 50th Anniversary of the Glass Art Society. With the theme *Between Here and There*, the conference explored the past 50 years of glass and brought presenters from 17 nations together to discuss what the next 50 years may hold for making, collecting, and educating. The more than 1,000 attendees enjoyed lectures, demonstrations, lecture/demonstrations, performances, films, and exhibitions by some of the top glass artists, educators, researchers, and experts from across the globe.



GAS Board Member and Museum of Glass Hot Shop Director Benjamin Cobb (left) assists Einar (right) and Jamex De La Torre during the 2022 Annual GAS Conference in Tacoma, Washington.

Outstanding Presenting Artists

Over 100 unique presenters represented all methods of working with glass. Brandi P. Clark, Executive Director of Glass Art Society, recently shared the list of renowned artists who offered information and inspiration to those who attended the Tacoma 2022 conference. “We gathered an outstanding lineup of presenters this year who showcased the diversity of our community and medium. “We were thrilled to be finally meeting together in person for the first time since 2019, and Tacoma was the perfect setting to make this milestone and our 50th anniversary celebration something truly special.”



Finished glass sculpture by Julia Malia Cordi during the 2022 Annual GAS Conference in Tacoma, Washington, USA.



Inside the Museum of Glass Hot Shop with Einar and Jamex De La Torre during the 2022 GAS Conference Kick-off + Demo.

Presenters included Mark Abildgaard, Jamie Adams, James Akers, Jill Allan, Gregory Alliss, Jeff Ballard, Bryan Beck, Jessie Blackmer, Michael Bokrosh, Mark Bolick, Lothar Bottche, Jane Bruce, Marta Byrdziak, Brandyn Callahan, Steve Ciezki, Devan Coe, Eric Cruze, Jerre Davidson, Einar De La Torre, Jamex De La Torre, Jacci Delaney, Cecile Derel, James Devereux, Laura Donefer, Davin Karlsen Ebanks, Kristin Elliot, and Hanne Enemark.

Also presenting were Dan Friday, Raya Friday, Don Friedlich, Celia Garland, Marta Gorski, Susan Gott, Terri Grant, Jianyong Guo, Riikka Haapasaari, Brooke Hamling, Davis Hanscom Thal, Josh Hershman, Benny Hill, Alli Hoag, Sean Hogan, Amy Hughes, Christopher Hurley, Katherine Huskie, Rashan Jones, Danielle Kaes, Danille Kaes, Saman Kalantari, Dylan Katz, Su-yeon Kim, Alison Kinnaird, Peter Kuchinke, Aimee LaBelle, Nicolas Laty, Jiyong Lee, Alicia Lomne, Jay Macdonell, Joanna Manousis, Emily Martin, Cedric Mitchell, Kathleen Mitchell, John Moran, Danie Nitardy, James Nole, and Sharyn O'Mara.

Additional presenters included David Patchen, Kit Paulson, Corey Pemberton, Sara Beth Post, Ann Potter, Angus Power, Laura Quinn, Trenton Quiocho, Georgia Redpath, Amira Rogers, Jamie Marie Rose, Tomo Sakai, Sammamish High School, Nathan Sandberg, Judith Schaechter, Ed Schmid, Edward Schmid, Liesel Schubel, Matteo Seguso, Doug Sheridan, Cathryn Shilling, Preston Singletary, Raven Skyriver, Bibi Smit, Kayla Socha, Ethan Steinman, Megan Stelljes, Dr. Max Stewart, Phirak Suon, Erin Taylor, Kimberly Thomas, Louis Thompson, Galen Turner, James Vella, Grace Whiteside, Arthur Wilson, Steve Wortley, Benjamin Wright, and Jinya Zhao.

Partnering to Create an Exceptional Conference Experience

Travel Tacoma partnered with the Museum of Glass to bring the 2022 GAS Conference to Tacoma, where presentations, exhibitions, activities, and special events activated the downtown corridor across four days. Conference venues included the Museum of Glass, Greater Tacoma Convention Center, Area 253 Glassblowing, The Corning Museum of Glass Roadshow at LeMay: America's Car Museum, the Tacoma Art Museum, and LeMay: America's Car Museum.

According to Dean Burke, President and CEO of Travel Tacoma—Mt. Rainier Tourism and Sports, "Tacoma celebrates glass artists and all artists as they come together in the spirit of community and expression. This partnership and collaboration was a visionary one that welcomed the biggest names in the glass industry to our city."

"The Museum of Glass opened nearly 20 years ago to celebrate the region's importance in the world of glass," said Debbie Lenk, Executive Director, Museum of Glass. "We have hosted artists from around the world, introduced the public to the art of glassmaking, and inspired youth through innovative educational programs. The conference was a wonderful moment to welcome the GAS community and showcase Tacoma's place in glass history past and present, including the Museum of Glass and other gems like Chihuly Bridge of Glass, Tacoma Museum District, and Hilltop Artists."

GIA

Visit glassart.org for more information on the Glass Art Society, its upcoming events, and how to become a member.

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